

Section I:
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the
CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended):

~~A method for preparing and presenting entitled offerings to guest participants in online offerings a auctions, said guest participants including guest brokers, bidders, buyers and traders, said method comprising the steps of:~~

in an online four-tier offering and bidding process in which an "offeror" notifies one or more traders of available products or services, quantities, and minimum acceptable bid values, followed by each trader communicating offerings to resell said available products or services to one or more brokers associated with each trader, followed by said brokers responding with bids to purchase said resold products or services through said trader, providing a reseller master agreement in a computer-readable record for each broker entitling a subset of said products and services on which each broker may bid, said subset being authorized for further resale by each broker to one or more end users;

further providing a profile for [[each]] a guest in a computer-readable record in said offering and bidding process, [[each]] said profile containing one or more entitlement definitions indicating allowable items which a guest user may receive information but for which is "read-only" and is to be restricted from placing bids, said entitlement definitions being ~~determined by and~~ controlled by said reseller master agreement a previously-established reseller contract between an offeror and a guest auction participant in a manner which prevents a guest auction participant from modifying the entitlement schema;

preparing one or more entitled offerings through filtering an available items list according to said profiles such that said prepared entitled offerings include only offerings for one or more items to which a guest is allowed offers as defined by the guest's entitlement ~~definitions~~; and

presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more guests such that each guest may review his or her entitled offerings.

Claim 2 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of providing a profile with entitlement definitions comprises providing an item category parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 3 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of providing a profile with entitlement definitions comprises providing a guest location parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 4 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 2 wherein said step of preparing one or more entitled offerings comprises removing items from said available items list which are unmatched by a category parameter within a guest's entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a guest is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 5 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said step of preparing one or more entitled offers comprises removing items from said available items list which are unmatched by a guest's location parameter within an entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a guest is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 6 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more guests comprises presenting said entitled offerings via a web browser user interface.

Claim 7 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising disabling and restricting bid attempts from said guest for items which are indicated as "read-only" in the guest's profile.

Claim 8 (original):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising enabling bid attempts from said guest for items which are indicated as "entitled" in the guest's profile.

Claim 9 (currently amended):

A computer-readable medium containing computer executable program code for preparing and presenting entitled offerings to guests of online offerings and auctions, said guests including bidders, buyers, brokers and traders, said computer program code causing said computer network server to perform the steps of:

in an online four-tier offering and bidding system in which an "offeror" notifies one or more traders of available products or services, quantities, and minimum acceptable bid values, followed by each trader communicating offerings to resell said available products or services to one or more brokers associated with each trader, followed by said brokers responding with bids to purchase said resold products or services through said trader, accessing a reseller master agreement in a computer-readable record for each broker entitling a subset of said products and services on which each broker may bid, said subset being authorized for further resale by each broker to one or more end users;

accessing a profile for ~~[[each]]~~ a guest in a computer-readable record in said offering and bidding system, ~~[[each]]~~ said profile containing one or more entitlement definitions indicating allowable items for which a guest may receive offerings which are "read-only" and for which each guest is to be restricted from bidding, said entitlement definitions being ~~determined by and~~ controlled by said reseller master agreement ~~a previously-established reseller contract between an offeror and a guest auction participant in a manner which prevents a guest auction participant from modifying the entitlement schema;~~

preparing one or more entitled offerings through filtering an available items list against said profile such that resulting entitled offerings include only one or more items for which a guest is allowed to receive offerings as defined by the guest's entitlement definitions; and

presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more guests such that each guest may review his or her entitled offerings.

Claim 10 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said program code for providing a profile with entitlement definitions comprises computer program code for providing an item category parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 11 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said program code for providing a profile with entitlement definitions comprises program code for providing a location parameter within said entitlement definitions.

Claim 12 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said program code for preparing one or more entitled offerings comprises program code for removing items from said available items list which are unmatched by a category parameter within a guest's entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a broker is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 13 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said program code for preparing one or more entitled offerings comprises program code for removing items from said available items list which are unmatched by a location parameter within a broker entitlement definition to produce a minimized list of items for which a guest is entitled to receive offerings.

Claim 14 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said program code for presenting via a computer user interface said entitled offerings to one or more prospective brokers comprises program code for presenting said entitled offerings via a web browser user interface.

Claim 15 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising program code for disabling and restricting bid attempts from said guest for items which are indicated as "read-only" in the guest's profile.

Claim 16 (original):

The computer-readable medium as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising program code for enabling bid attempts from said guest for items which are indicated as "entitled" in the guest's profile.

Claim 17 (currently amended)

An offering system in a computer network ~~for preparing and presenting entitled offerings to guests of online offer and auction systems, said guests including brokers, buyers, bidders and traders, said computer network enabling communications between said online offer system and guest consoles, said offering system comprising:~~

in an online four-tier offering and bidding system in which an "offeror" notifies one or more traders of available products or services, quantities, and minimum acceptable bid values, followed by each trader communicating offerings to resell said available products or services to one or more brokers associated with each trader, followed by said brokers responding with bids to purchase said resold products or services through said trader, a reseller master agreement disposed in a computer-readable record for each broker entitling a subset of said products and services on which each broker may bid, said subset being authorized for further resale by each broker to one or more end users;

a profile for a guest in a computer-readable record in said offering and bidding system, said profile containing one or more entitlement definitions indicating allowable items which a guest user may receive information but for which is "read-only" and is to be restricted from placing bids, said entitlement definitions being controlled by said reseller master agreement;

a database in said offering and bidding system containing entitled sales offerings, said database accessible and queriable by network application servers;

an entitled offering preparation server ~~for preparing~~ which prepares entitled offerings through filtering lists of available items against guest entitlement parameters to produce entitled offerings including one or more items to which a guest is entitled to receive information and for which a guest is restricted to bid, said entitlement parameters being determined by and controlled by said reseller master agreement ~~a previously-established reseller contract between an offeror and a guest auction participant in a manner which prevents a guest auction participant from modifying the entitlement schema, and for storing entitled sales offerings in said database;~~ and

a network application server for providing sales offerings to guest console computers.

Claim 18 (original):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is an Internet server.

Claim 19 (original):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is a Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server.

Claim 20 (original):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is a secure Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTPS) server.

Claim 21 (original):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said network application server is adapted for communications with guest console computers which are web browser devices.

Claim 22 (original):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein entitled sales offering preparation server is adapted to filter lists of available items by guest entitlement parameters including a location parameter.

Claim 23 (original):

The offering system as set forth in Claim 17 wherein entitled sales offering preparation server is adapted to filter lists of available items by guest entitlement parameters including an item category parameter.